

wherein said plurality of ICU's are electronically connected to said remote command center by the at least one network, and

wherein said remote command center further comprises a computerized patient care management system for monitoring and treating individual patients at any of said plurality of geographically dispersed ICU's for intensivist monitoring of the plurality of health care locations 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

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10) issues

17. (Amended) The system for providing continuous, expert network health care services from a remote location of claim 15 wherein said computerized patient care management system further comprises a data server/data warehouse for storing and analyzing data from the remote command center.

18. (New) The system for providing continuous, expert network health care services from a remote location of claim 15 wherein each of the plurality of geographically dispersed ICU's further comprises patient monitoring equipment electronically connected to the remote command center over the network.

19. (Amended) The system for providing continuous, expert network health care services from a remote location of claim 18 wherein each geographically dispersed ICU further comprises a nurses' station electronically connected to said monitoring equipment and to the remote command center over the at least one network.

Sub. 53 21. (Amended) The system for providing continuous, expert network health care services from a remote location of claim 15 wherein said computerized patient care management system further comprises a relational database storing a plurality of decision support algorithms for intensivists and means for prompting intensivists to provide care to patients based upon the any of the decision support algorithms.

22. (Amended) The system for providing continuous, expert network health care services from a remote location of claim 21 wherein said decision support algorithms include algorithms for treating:

22. (Amended) The system for providing continuous, expert network health care services from a remote location of claim 21 wherein said decision support algorithms include algorithms for treating:
Acalculous Cholecystitis, Acute Pancreatitis Algorithm, Acute Renal Failure-Diagnosis, Acute Renal Failure-Management & Treatment, Adrenal Insufficiency, Agitation and Anxiety, Depression & Withdrawal, Aminoglycoside Dosing and Therapeutic Monitoring, an Amphotericin-B Treatment Guidelines, Analgesia, Antibiotic Classification & Costs, Antibigrams Algorithm, Antibiotic associated Colitis Algorithm, ARDS: Hemodynamic Management, ARDS: Steroid Use, ARDS: Ventilator Strategies, Asthma, Bleeding Patient, Bloodstream Infections, Blunt Cardiac Injury, Bradyarrhythmias, Brain Death, Bronchodilator Use in Ventilator Patients, Bronchoscopy & Thoracentesis Guidelines, Candiduria, Cardiogenic Shock, CardioPulmonary Resuscitation Guideline, Catheter Related Septicemia, a Catheter Replacement Strategies, Cervical Cord Injury, Congestive Heart Failure , Copd Exacerbation & Treatment, CXR (Indications), Dealing with Difficult patients and families, Diabetic Ketoacidosis, Dialysis, Diurectic Use, Drug Changes with Renal Dysfunction, Emergency Cardiac Pacing, Endocarditis Diagnosis and Treatment, Endocarditis Prophylaxis, End of Life Decisions, Endotracheal Tubes & Tracheotomy, Ethical Guidelines, Febrile Neutropenia, FUO,

Fluid Resuscitation, Guillain-Barre Syndrome, Heparin, Heparin-Induced Thrombocytopenia, Hepatic Encephalopathy, Hepatic Failure, HIV + Patent Infections, Hypercalcemia Diagnosis and Treatment, Hypercalcemia Insulin Treatment, Hyperkalemia : Etiology & Treatment, Hyponatremia : Etiology & Treatment, Hypertensive Crisis, Hypokalemia : Etiology & Treatment, Hyponatremia : Etiology & Treatment, Hypothermia, Identification of Cervical Cord Injury, Implantable Cardio-defibrillator, Intra-Aortic Balloon Device, Intracerebral Hemorrhage, Latex Allergy, Magnesium Administration, Management of Hypotension, Inotropes , Management of Patients with Ascites, Empiric Meningitis, Meningitis, a Myasthenia Gravis, Myocardial Infarction, Myocardial Infarction with left bundle branch block, Necrotizing Soft Tissue Infections, Neuromuscular Blockers, Neuromuscular Complications of Critical Illness, Non-Infectious Causes of Fever, Non-Traumatic Coma, Noninvasive Modes of Ventilation, Nutritional Management, Obstetrical Complication, Oliguria, Oliguria, Open Fractures, Open Fractures, Ophthalmic Infections, Organ Procurement Guidelines, PA Catheter Guideline and Troubleshooting, Pancreatitis, Penetrating Abdominal Injury, Penetrating Chest Injury, Penicillin Allergy, Penicillin Allergy, Permanent Pacemaker and Indications, Pneumonia Community Acquired, Pneumonia Hospital Acquired, Post-Op Bleeding, Post-Op Hypertension, Post-Op Hypertension , Post-Op Management of Abdominal, Post-Op Management of Carotid, Post-Op Management of Open Heart, Post-Op Management of Thoracotomy, Post-Op Myocardial Ischemia (Non-Cardiac Arrhythmias after Cardiac Surgery), Post-Op Power Weaning, Pressure Ulcers, Pulmonary Embolism Diagnosis, Pulmonary Embolism Treatment, Respiratory Isolation, Sedation, Seizure, Status Epilepticus, Stroke, Sub-Arachnoid Hemorrhage, Supra-Ventricular Tachyarrhythmia, Supra-Ventricular Tachycardia, Wide Complex QRS Tachycardia, Therapeutic Drug Monitoring,

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Thrombocytopenia, Thrombolytic Therapy, Transfusion Guidelines, Traumatic Brain Injury, Assessment of Sedation, Sedation, Septic Shock, Bolus Sliding Scale Midazolam, Short Term Sedation Process, Sinusitis, SIRS, Spinal Cord Injury, Steroid Replacement Strategy, Thyroid Disease, Transplant Infection Prophylaxis, Transplant Related Infections, Treatment of Airway Obstruction, Unknown Poisoning, Unstable Angina, Upper GI Bleeding Stress Prophylaxis, Vancomycin, Upper GI Bleeding Non-Variceal, Upper GI Bleeding Variceal, Use of Hematopoietic Growth Factors, Ventilator Weaning, Ventilator Weaning Protocol, Venous Thrombosis Diagnostic and Treatment, Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis, Ventricular Arrhythmia, Warfarin, Warfarin Dosing, and Wound Healing Strategies.

23. (Amended) The system for providing continuous, expert network health care services from a remote location of claim 15 wherein said computerized patient care management system further comprises order writing software means for providing knowledge-based recommendations and prescriptions for medication based upon the clinical data.

24. (Amended) The system for providing continuous, expert network health care services from a remote location of claim 15 wherein said computerized patient care management system further comprises knowledge-based vital sign/hemodynamic algorithms that prompt said intensivist to engage in early intervention.

25. (Amended) A method for providing continuous expert critical care comprising:
monitoring patients in a plurality of geographically dispersed ICU's;

communicating the information from the patient monitoring to a single remote command center over a first network

receiving and analyzing the information from the patient monitoring at the remote command center over the first network; and

providing guidance from the remote command center to the plurality of geographically dispersed ICU's to take actions regarding patient care, wherein the providing guidance from the remote command center further comprises an intensivist reviewing decision support algorithms for intensivists that provide guidance for treating a plurality of critical care conditions.

26. (Amended) The method for providing continuous expert critical care of claim 25 wherein the decision support algorithms include algorithms for treating:

Acalculous Cholecystitis, Acute Pancreatitis Algorithm, Acute Renal Failure-Diagnosis, Acute Renal Failure-Management & Treatment, Adrenal Insufficiency, Agitation and Anxiety, Depression & Withdrawal, Aminoglycoside Dosing and Therapeutic Monitoring, an Amphotericin-B Treatment Guidelines, Analgesia, Antibiotic Classification & Costs, Antibiograms Algorithm, Antibiotic associated Colitis Algorithm, ARDS: Hemodynamic Management, ARDS: Steroid Use, ARDS: Ventilator Strategies, Asthma, Bleeding Patient, Bloodstream Infections, Blunt Cardiac Injury, Bradyarrhythmias, Brain Death, Bronchodilator Use in Ventilator Patients, Bronchoscopy & Thoracentesis Guidelines, Candiduria, Cardiogenic Shock, CardioPulmonary Resuscitation Guideline, Catheter Related Septicemia, a Catheter Replacement Strategies, Cervical Cord Injury, Congestive Heart Failure , Copd Exacerbation & Treatment, CXR (Indications), Dealing with Difficult patients and families, Diabetic Ketoacidosis, Dialysis, Diuretic Use, Drug Changes with Renal Dysfunction, Emergency

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Cardiac Pacing, Endocarditis Diagnosis and Treatment, Endocarditis Prophylaxis, End of Life Decisions, Endotracheal Tubes & Tracheotomy, Ethical Guidelines, Febrile Neutropenia, FUO, Fluid Resuscitation, Guillain-Barre Syndrome, Heparin, Heparin-Induced Thrombocytopenia, Hepatic Encephalopathy, Hepatic Failure, HIV + Patent Infections, Hypercalcemia Diagnosis and Treatment, Hypercalcemia Insulin Treatment, Hyperkalemia : Etiology & Treatment, Hyponatremia : Etiology & Treatment, Hypertensive Crisis, Hypokalemia : Etiology & Treatment, Hyponatremia : Etiology & Treatment, Hypothermia, Identification of Cervical Cord Injury, Implantable Cardio-defibrillator, Intra-Aortic Balloon Device, Intracerebral Hemorrhage, Latex Allergy, Magnesium Administration, Management of Hypotension, Inotropes , Management of Patients with Ascites, Empiric Meningitis, Meningitis, a Myasthenia Gravis, Myocardial Infarction, Myocardial Infarction with left bundle branch block, Necrotizing Soft Tissue Infections, Neuromuscular Blockers, Neuromuscular Complications of Critical Illness, Non-Infectious Causes of Fever, Non-Traumatic Coma, Noninvasive Modes of Ventilation, Nutritional Management, Obstetrical Complication, Oliguria, Open Fractures, Open Fractures, Ophthalmic Infections, Organ Procurement Guidelines, PA Catheter Guideline and Troubleshooting, Pancreatitis, Penetrating Abdominal Injury, Penetrating Chest Injury, Penicillin Allergy, Penicillin Allergy, Permanent Pacemaker and Indications, Pneumonia Community Acquired, Pneumonia Hospital Acquired, Post-Op Bleeding, Post-Op Hypertension, Post-Op Hypertension , Post-Op Management of Abdominal, Post-Op Management of Carotid, Post-Op Management of Open Heart, Post-Op Management of Thoracotomy, Post-Op Myocardial Ischemia (Non-Cardiac Arrhythmias after Cardiac Surgery), Post-Op Power Weaning, Pressure Ulcers, Pulmonary Embolism Diagnosis, Pulmonary Embolism Treatment, Respiratory Isolation, Sedation, Seizure, Status Epilepticus, Stroke,

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New

Sub-Arachnoid Hemorrhage, Supra-Ventricular Tachyarrythmia, Supra-Ventricular Tachycardia, Wide Complex QRS Tachycardia, Therapeutic Drug Monitoring, Thrombocytopenia, Thrombolytic Therapy, Transfusion Guidelines, Traumatic Brain Injury, Assessment of Sedation, Sedation, Septic Shock, Bolus Sliding Scale Midazolam, Short Term Sedation Process, Sinusitis, SIRS, Spinal Cord Injury, Steroid Replacement Strategy, Thyroid Disease, Transplant Infection Prophylaxis, Transplant Related Infections, Treatment of Airway Obstruction, Unknown Poisoning, Unstable Angina, Upper GI Bleeding Stress Prophylaxis, Vancomycin, Upper GI Bleeding Non-Variceal, Upper GI Bleeding Variceal, Use of Hematopoietic Growth Factors, Ventilator Weaning, Ventilator Weaning Protocol, Venous Thrombosis Diagnostic and Treatment, Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis, Ventricular Arrhythmia, Warfarin, Warfarin Dosing, and Wound Healing Strategies.

27. (Amended) The method for providing continuous expert critical care of claim 25 further comprising a data server/ data warehouse storing and analyzing patient data from the command center and providing analysis of results over a second network to the command center.

REMARKS

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the courtesy extended by Examiners Harle and her supervisor in extending personal and telephonic interviews with Applicants' representatives.

Claims 15, 17-19 and 21-27 remain in the application. Claims 16 and 20 have been cancelled. The limitations of cancelled claim 16 and 20 have been incorporated into claim 15. All of the claims have been amended to further define the plurality of ICU's as being geographically dispersed and monitored by a single remote command center. Further, the decision support algorithms of claims 21 and 25 have been further defined as algorithms for